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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL

DATE: March 24, 2008

RE: U.S. Patent Application
of Kenji KATO et al.
Appln. No. 09/582,903
Filing Date: August 11, 2000
Group Art Unit: 2627
Examiner: Tan X. Dinh
Facsimile No. (571) 273-8300
Attorney's Docket No. S004-4034

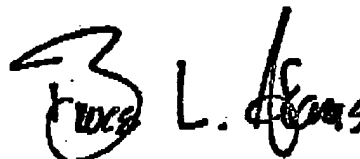
NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER PAGE: 10

TITLE OF PAPER: PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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March 24, 2008

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of :
Kenji KATO et al. :
Serial No. 09/582,903 : Group Art Unit: 2627
Filed: August 11, 2000 : Examiner: Tan X. Dinh
For: NEAR-FIELD OPTICAL HEAD :
HAVING TAPERED HOLE FOR :
GUIDING LIGHT BEAM : Docket No. S004-4034
(As amended) (PCT) (RCE)

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MS AMENDMENT
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

In further response to the Advisory Action mailed February 28, 2008, and further to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed March 11, 2008, applicants amend their application as follows:

BY FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION ON MARCH 24, 2008